

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 301500Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5457

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 655

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN PINT YO

SUBJ: TITO-PLANINC TOAST, JAN 6

REF: BELGRADE 131

1. IN CONVERSATION REVIEWING TRADE UNION POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN 1975, TRADE UNION OFFICIAL VOLUNTEERED TO EMBOFF THAT TITO'S TOAST TO MILKA PLANINC, JAN 6, WAS IMPORTANT STATEMENT ABOUT COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC/POLITICAL SITUATION. HE SAID TOAST BASED ON THEME OF UNITY OF YUGOSLAV ECONOMY AND SOCIETY WAS DIRECTED SPECIFICALLY AT "WEALTHY REGIONS" OF YUGOSLAVIA WITH CLEAR MESSAGE THE WEALTHY MUST UNDERSTAND AND ASSIST IN SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF THE POORER REGIONS.

2. COMMENT: EVENTS IN 1975 HIGHLIGHTED DEGREE TO WHICH CONFLICTS ABOUT IMPORTANT ECONOMIC ISSUES WERE VEHICLES FOR EXPRESSING DIFFERENCES AMONG REGIONS, AND BETWEEN REPUBLICS AND FEDERAL GOVT. THERE ARE SEVERAL INDICATIONS OF ONGOING CONTROVERSY AMONG REPUBLICS AND PROVINCES, AND BETWEEN THEM AND FEDERAL GOVT, CONCERNING LEVEL OF RESOURCE TRANSFERS TO KOSOVO AND OTHER LESS DEVELOPED AREAS. KOSOVO PARTY CHIEF BAKALI HAS BEEN SOUNDING THE TRUMPET FOR MORE HELP. JAN 21-22 VISIT TO KOSOVO BY CROATIAN DELEGATION, LED BY PLANINC, MAY WELL BE CONNECTED WITH THIS ISSUE.

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YUGOSLAV MEDIUM-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS TO BE COMPLETED BY JUNE

1976, AND ONE OF PLAN'S KEY TASKS IS TO SET THE LEVEL OF RESOURCE
TRANSFER FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. WE ARE PROBABLY SEEING
TIP OF THE ICEBERG OF DEBATE OVER APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF
TRANSFER. INDICATIONS ARE THAT BENEATH THE SURFACE THIS
ISSUE IS AS DEVISIVE AND DIFFICULT AS EVER.
SWEITZER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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